



The 2007 Environmental Stewardship Award

Excellence in Agriculture and Forestry Award:

Raymond Cooper Farm Grazing Technology for Water Quality (Cannon County)

Raymond Cooper Farm Grazing Technology for water quality has installed fences, several pipelines and water systems at strategic locations throughout the farm to help protect and manage the grass base and implements a rotational grazing system. The system allows the farm to reduce its output cost significantly by using less fertilizer and harvesting less hay. Raymond Cooper has also excluded his cattle from a stream and ponds on the property to preserve water quality and habitat for the Barrens Topminnow, which is considered a threatened species by the State of Tennessee and is only located in Cannon, Coffee and Warren Counties.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Raymond Cooper; Pamela Hoskins; USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service soil conservationist; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Excellence in Aquatic Resource Preservation Award:

Tennessee Department of Agriculture Sevenmile Creek – Ellington Restoration Project (Davidson County)

The Sevenmile Creek Restoration project encompasses the installation of seven storm water retention structures, which capture over 90 percent of all the rainfall and runoff that exists on the Ellington campus, as well as the grading and planting of native shrubs and flowers on approximately 1,000 linear feet of vertical and eroding stream banks. Forty acres of the floodplain on campus were placed in a perpetual conservation easement and six parking lot filtration basins were designed and constructed with porous concrete travel lanes. Rain barrels were installed, 25.5 acres of previously mowed lawns or pastures have been converted to native meadows or native storm water structures and 7,600 feet of primitive trails were created. This project represents an effort to retrofit a state-owned campus with the latest in low impact development practices, bioretention technology, aquatic habitat restoration and other progressive techniques to restore a 303(d) listed impaired stream to a higher state of water quality.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Dodd Galbreath, URS Corporation senior project manager; Mike Berkley; GroWild, Inc.; James Baker; Department of General Services facility administrator; Andy Sudbrock, Nashville Natives, LLC; Larry Maxwell, Department of Agriculture assistant commissioner; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Governor's Award for Excellence in Building Green:

Morgan Park Place, Phase One (Davidson County)

Morgan Park Place is a 72-unit, multifamily, mixed use, urban infill new construction in the Historic Germantown area of Nashville. Lawrence Brothers and New Urban Construction are developing and building one hundred percent of these units according to EarthCraft House specifications. Eighteen of the 21 units completed in Phase One of the project have received EarthCraft House certification, becoming the first in Tennessee to receive this designation, and have been qualified for the EPA Energy Star program. Each unit uses sustainable features to achieve energy efficiency, water conservation, resource conservation, indoor air quality and waste reduction. Homeowners can expect an average savings of \$194-\$340 in power bills per year.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Skip Lawrence, Lawrence Bros., LLC; Todd Zeitlin, Werthan Zeitlin Ventures; Fred Lawrence, Lawrence Bros., LLC; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Excellence in Energy Leadership Award:

City of Johnson City Iris Glen Gas to Energy Partnership (Washington County)

The Iris Glen Gas to Energy Partnership is a highly creative use of landfill gas that conserves natural resources, reduces greenhouse gases and provides a long-term revenue source for the City of Johnson City. Through the use of new technology, Energy Systems Group (ESG) has engineered and built a landfill gas processing system to convert raw low BTU gas to clean high BTU gas as a direct replacement for natural gas. ESG constructed a four-mile pipeline through the city to the Mountain Home Veterans Administration Medical Center where the renewable gas is converted into electricity and steam at a reduced cost over traditional natural gas. The project saves the equivalent amount of emissions as would be saved by removing 34,000 cars from the road each year, or planting 49,000 acres of trees each year, or heating over 11,000 homes.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Dennis Bollinger, Energy Systems Group clean fuels director; Phil Pindzola, Johnson City Public Works director; Russ Nelson, Energy Systems Group business development manager; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Excellence in Environmental Education & Outreach Award:

Tennessee Valley Earth Partnership EarthFest (Knox County)

EarthFest promotes public awareness of environmental issues in East Tennessee, such as clean air, water, sustainable transportation, waste reduction, recycling and urban forestation. EarthFest held a “waste-free” event in 2006 at World’s Fair Park with attendance of 10,000 and 100 exhibitors with only 152 pounds of non-recyclable or compostable material produced. The event has been such a success that other event organizers in the area are modeling EarthFest’s event to make their events “waste-free.”



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Tom Salter, Keep Knoxville Beautiful executive director; Catherine Wilt, UT Center for Clean Products and Clean Technologies policy director; John Homa; City of Knoxville solid waste reduction specialist; Bob Whetsel, City of Knoxville Public Services director; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Green Schools Award for K-12:

West Carroll Elementary “Illuminates” Solid Waste Reduction and Energy Conservation (Carroll County)

West Carroll Elementary School leads the community to improve its environment. The grade 3-6 school taught Trezevant and the surrounding communities to create a positive relationship between the community and the environment. Sixth-grade teacher Mollie Vann and her students focused on recycling, energy conservation, wildlife preservation, and community environmental education. The Energy Team separated cardboard and paper from other waste to recycle 11 tons of paper. The Change a Light-Change the World campaign received pledges from 465 homes to replace and change over 2,000 incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs. The Building Buddies program recycled 508 pounds of aluminum, 650 pounds of plastic, 1,964 ink jet printer cartridges and 600 pounds of electronics. The Ring Leader program recycled plastic drink can rings to prevent wildlife loss. And “Give the Earth a Gift: Recycle” was the message shared with the community in the Christmas parade where trash was recycled to build a float. The school also sponsored a Free for All swap day that generated \$56 that was donated to help pay electric bills for the needy.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Mollie Vann; West Carroll Elementary 6th grade teacher; Lori McClain, West Carroll Elementary School; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Green Schools Award for Higher Education:

Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) WaterWorks! (Rutherford County)

WaterWorks! is a public education and outreach program of the MTSU Center for Environmental Education designed to promote clean water in Tennessee through a number of initiatives, including a series of public service announcements, advocating water quality through responsible action and print media focusing on homeowner, builder/developer, and agriculture practices that affect water quality. WaterWorks! provides educational materials and information to storm water municipalities, watershed organizations and other citizen groups and the general public to raise awareness and reinforce the message of individual responsibility for water quality in Tennessee.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Paula Larson, TDEC Used Oil coordinator; Karen Hargrove, MTSU Center for Environmental Education coordinator; Carole Swann, Department of Agriculture environmental specialist; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Excellence in Greenways and Trails:

Maury County Parks & Recreation Tony's Trail (Maury County)

Tony's Trail is a 10-foot wide, 763 linear foot-long curbed, motorized accessible trail specifically designed for motorized wheelchairs, power chairs, electric scooters, children's motorized electric vehicles and traditional wheelchairs. Tony's Trail features a large playground containing ADA accessible playground equipment as well as wheelchair accessible playground equipment. Tony's Trail offers a unique recreational opportunity for adults and children of varying abilities and helps to foster positive intergenerational relationships.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Bill Marbet; Maury County Park Board Commission chairman; Sonjalyn Dickson Rine, Maury County Parks and Recreation Recreation specialist and Friends of Maury County Park secretary; Al Ray, Maury County Parks and Recreation director; George Nuber; Nuber Architecture ; Linda Scott, Friends of Maury County Park board member; Benny Bolton; Maury County Park Board Commission vice-chairman; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Excellence in Hazardous Waste Reduction:

Pull-A-Part Nashville: A Part of the Solution (Davidson County)

Pull-A-Part provides an innovation “green” approach for used auto parts retail sales and recycling, which creates a “win/win” for the Nashville community. Pull-A-Part removes, resells and recycles 1,000-2,000 cars each month, properly managing hazardous materials and eliminating the potential for automotive fluids to pollute waterways and ground water. Pull-A-Part partners with End-of-Life Vehicles Solutions to remove mercury switches in end-of-life vehicles. Their efforts have reduced the amount of waste generated in the recycling process by 120 pounds for each net ton of cars, prevents 1.5 million pounds of waste from entering Tennessee landfills, recycles 1,000 tons of steel each month, and has calculated that it saves enough energy to light over 2,166,667 60-watt light bulbs for over 26 hours. The facility also recycles approximately 50,000 gallons of oil, gasoline, brake fluid, transmission fluid, Freon, antifreeze and thousands of lead-acid batteries each year.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Steve Levetan; Pull-A-Part senior vice president; Gregg Cohen, Pull-A-Part; Mark Nickerson, Pull-A-Part Nashville branch manager; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Robert Sparks Walker Lifetime Achievement Award:

Bertha Chrietzberg – Murfreesboro - “The Power of One”

Bertha Chrietzberg has been a tireless and effective champion for outdoor recreation and the protection of Tennessee’s environment for more than 45 years. Bertha was a founding member of the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association created in 1966 and the Tennessee Trails Association founded in 1968. She has been a dominant force in many other non-profit, citizen based organizations including the Tennessee Environmental Council, Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning, Friends of Fall Creek Falls, Friends of the Stones River Greenway, the Black Fox Wetland League, the Stones River Watershed Association, and the Tennessee Native Plant Society.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Bertha Chrietzberg, Stones River Watershed Association; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Bertha has been active in the field of environmental education for many decades and played a key role in creating the outdoor recreation major at Middle Tennessee State University through which many of her students have become environmental leaders. Bertha’s work has helped to bring about real, measurable, and lasting changes. She is a true environmental educator by both vocation and inclination, a shining example for all of us of the power of one. As Bertha is inclined to note, “I consider myself an environmental activist. It’s all about doing one’s part. People say, ‘why don’t *they* do this?’ ‘*They*’ doesn’t exist. It should be ‘why don’t *I* do something?’ It’s amazing what one person can do.”

Bertha has rescued rare plants, prevented gravel mining in the Stones River, championed the Stones River greenway route, cleaned up toxic dump sites and conducted numerous wildflower hikes.

Excellence in Natural Heritage Conservation:

Friends of Beaman Park Non Native Invasive Plant Management and Landscape Restoration (Davidson County)

Beaman Park reduced, minimized and eliminated the spread of non-native invasive plants on approximately 800 acres within the park and on adjacent private lands. The goal of the restoration was to protect the ecosystem and biodiversity of forested lands in and around Beaman Park and to enhance the restoration of native plants. This was done by establishing restoration planting areas on a minimum of 200 acres to restore and rehabilitate degraded areas to prevent re-establishment of pest species, using seed supplies and other eco-specific native plant materials.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Nancy Dorman; Friends of Beaman Park, president; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Excellence in Parks & Recreation:

City of Chattanooga Renaissance Park (Hamilton County)

Renaissance Park is a conservation and environmentally focused 23-acre brown field project that was created as a part of Chattanooga's 21st Century Waterfront Plan. The site of enameling and stove manufacturing plants on the North Shore of the Tennessee River for over 70 years, Renaissance Park successfully demonstrates how a once-polluted area can be restored to an ecologically-sound river habitat and a natural park setting within an urban and tourism driven landscape. The city restored an urban stream ecology, enhanced river eco-systems, promoted the return of native plants and animals, raised awareness of the area's historical significance, and maintained the balance between urban renewal and the conservation of natural resources.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Lawrence Zehnder; City of Chattanooga Parks administrator; Jeff Pfitzer, River City Company project coordinator; Greta Hayes; City of Chattanooga Parks assistant director; Kevin Brady; City of Chattanooga Parks director; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan

Excellence in Pollution Prevention:

SIM from Tricycle, Inc. (Hamilton County)

Tricycle developed the technology to reproduce the colors and textures of carpeting on paper. By doing so, they are preserving nonrenewable resources like oil and reducing landfill waste. Most designers will request around 30 carpet samples for a single project. These carpet samples use approximately 7.5 gallons of oil to create, and the designer will often pick a few they like and discard the rest in a landfill. Tricycle eliminates that production process and creates its samples from 100 percent recyclable paper. In one year, 34,443 SIM alternative samples were shipped, 8,611 gallons of oil were saved and 51,665 pounds of carpet were not put into a landfill.



(l-r) Deputy Governor Stuart Brunson; Jonathan Bragdon, Tricycle president; Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan